

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 023519

67

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/APU:KNROGERS:MMG

APPROVED BY ARA:JKUBISCH

ARA/APU:FVORTIZ, JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 023519

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PA, US

SUBJECT: SAPENA PASTOR'S CALL ON ASST. SEC. KUBISCH

1. ON FEB. 1, PARAGUAYAN FONMIN SAPENA PASTOR CALLED ON ASST. SEC. KUBISCH AT THE DEPARTMENT. AMB. SOLANO LOPEZ,

PRESENT.

2. ASST. SEC. KUBISCH ASKED THE FONMIN FOR HIS THOUGHTS ON THE FORTHCOMING MFN IN MEXICO CITY. THE FONMIN RESPONDED HE DID NOT HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR THE MEETING. THERE WERE SOME ELEMENTS OF PERSONAL AGGRANDIZIMENT INVOLVED IN THE ATTITUDES OF SOME OF THE LATIN AMERICAN MINISTERS. HOWEVER, HE SAID, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE US SECRETARY OF STATE ATTEND. MR. KUBISCH SAID THAT THE SECRETARY WELCOMED AN OPPORTUNITY FRANKLY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH THE OTHER MINISTERS. THE MINISTER SAID THE US COULD COUNT ON PARAGUAY'S SUPPORT.

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PAGE 02 STATE 023519

THE MINISTER SAID BRAZIL, BOLIVIA AND URUGUAY SAW MATTERS

IN A SIMILAR VEIN. THERE MIGHT BE TROUBLE FROM PERU AND MAYBE ARGENTINA AND PANAMA. MEXICO ALWAYS PLAYED A SKILLFUL ROLE, HE SAID.

3. SAPENA SAID THAT PARAGUAY DID NOT ACCEPT THE CONCEPT OF IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM AS HAD BEEN APPLIED TO THE CUBAN CASE. THIS GAVE CUBA A LICENSE TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS OF THE OTHER STATES. HE SAID PARAGUAY HAS BEEN PEACEFUL BOTH EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY FOR 20 YEARS.

4. THE MINISTER SAID PARAGUAY WOULD REQUIRE SOME 35 TO 40,000 TONS OF WHEAT AND HOPED TO OBTAIN IT UNDER PL 480 TITLE I IN FY 75. MR. KUBISCH RESPONDED THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO SAY WHAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE BUT THAT WE WOULD SYMPATHETICALLY CONSIDER PARAGUAY'S INTEREST. SAPENA REMARKED THAT ARGENTINA ALWAYS WANTED CASH FOR ITS WHEAT.

5. THE MINISTER REFERRED TO US MILITARY ASSISTANCE SAYING THAT BOLIVIA HAS RECEIVED SO MUCH AND IS SO "UNSTABLE" THAT PARAGUAY FEELS IT SHOULD MAINTAIN A PARITY OF FORCE. MR. KUBISCH SAID THE US WOULD BEAR THIS OBSERVATION IN MIND.

6. THE TONE OF THE MEETING WAS INFORMAL AND CORDIAL. KISSINGER

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